Research Notes: Bridget McDermott (1832-1855)

Research Overview:

Bridget McDermott (born circa 1832; died 18 September 1885) lived her entire life within a small cluster of townlands in County Roscommon, Ireland, and is documented primarily through her marriage, the births of her children, and her death record. She married Martin Healy in 1860 in the Roman Catholic Parish of Killucan and raised a family whose later movements, religious vocations, marriages, and burials provide the strongest surviving evidence of her life. Like many rural Irish women of her generation, Bridget left a limited documentary footprint, and her identity must be reconstructed through association rather than direct personal records.

Bridget McDermott was the daughter of Michael McDermott and Margaret Beirne of Rathallen, County Roscommon. This parentage is supported by a formal proof statement written by NEHGS and is further reinforced by multiple DNA matches linking descendants of Bridget McDermott Healy to documented descendants of Michael McDermott and Margaret Beirne. While gaps and ambiguities exist in the surviving parish registers, this identification is treated as settled within the context of this research and provides a stable framework for interpreting Bridget's origins and family network.

The McDermott family of Rathallen appears repeatedly in parish records associated with the Killucan (Croghan) area, with children baptized over a span of nearly two decades. Bridget McDermott's own baptismal record has not survived in clear or identifiable form, but the estimated timing of her birth aligns with documented gaps in the baptisms of Michael McDermott and Margaret Beirne's children, and the NEHGS proof statement proposes specific reasons her baptism may be missing from the surviving record.

Bridget McDermott's identity must also be distinguished from that of other women of the same name who lived in County Roscommon during the same period. More than one woman named Bridget McDermott married a man named Healy in the mid-nineteenth century, creating overlapping family structures and later confusion in the attribution of children and events. Separating Bridget McDermott Healy, wife of Martin Healy, from other contemporaries of the same name is therefore essential to maintaining

chronological and familial coherence within both the McDermott and Healy lines.

As the wife of Martin Healy and the mother of a family rooted in County Roscommon, Bridget McDermott Healy is most clearly visible through the later lives of her children. Their marriages, religious vocations, and burial locations provide the primary framework for tracing her adult life and final years. Bridget died in Rathcroghan in 1885 and was likely buried at Tulsk Cemetery, placing her within the same local landscape that defines the rest of her known family history.

Speculative Narrative:

Intentionally left blank.

Time Line:

Place-name context — Killucan, Croghan, and Rathallen
Parish records for the McDermott family appear under Killucan, also known as Croghan. Rathallen is a townland within this parish and appears interchangeably in records for the same family.

May 1932—She was probably born in Roscommon, Ireland.[1] Her Irish Death Record states that she was born in 1859.

4 May 1832 — Probable baptism of Bridget McDermott at Killucan (Croghan), Roscommon.

A NEHGS analysis of the original parish register identifies a damaged baptism entry dated 14 May 1832 for a child likely named *Brigid*, daughter of Michael McDermott and Margaret Beirne. The record is difficult to read and was inconsistently indexed, but is treated as the most likely baptism for Bridget McDermott Healy. The baptismal entry lists Thomas McDermott as sponsor.

The Healy and Beirne surnames recur among baptismal sponsors for the McDermott children of Rathallen during Bridget McDermott's lifetime, linking the McDermott and Healy families prior to Bridget's marriage.

1833 - Birth of brother Matthew McDermott at Roscommon, Ireland.[2]

22 Apr 1835 - Birth of sister Winifred McDermott at Rathallen, Croghan, Roscommon, Ireland.[3]

[1] Baptismal record

[2] Birth of brother Matthew McDermott

[3] "Ireland Births and Baptisms, 1620-1881", , *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:F5RZ-VKM: 5 February 2020), Winifridam Mc Dermott, 1835.

Sponsors: John Healy and Mary Beirne.

29 Jun 1842 - Birth of brother Michael McDermott at Rathallen, Croghan, Roscommon, Ireland.[4]
Sponsors: Peter Healy and Mary Sharket.

30 Jan 1860 - Marriage to Martin Healy (1832 - 1885) at Killucan, Roscommon, Ireland.[5]

Martin married Bridget McDermott in the Roman Catholic Parish of Killucan, County Roscommon, on 30 January 1860.[6] They were probably married in the church in Croghan, 15 miles north of Tulsk.

About 1860 - Death of father Michael McDermott () at Rathallen, Croghan, Roscommon, Ireland.[7]

1860–1871 — Births of children to Martin Healy and Bridget McDermott in Roscommon.

Post-1860 — Parish baptism records for the children of Martin Healy and Bridget McDermott do not survive or were not recorded.

A search of Killucan (Croghan) parish registers did not locate baptism records for their children, despite later civil, census, and burial evidence identifying the family group.

1863 - Birth of daughter Margaret Healy (1863 - 1934) at Ratherogen, Roscommon, Ireland.[8]

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[4] "Ireland Births and Baptisms, 1620-1881", , *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:F56L-T5X: 5 February 2020), Michaelem Mc Dermott, 1842.

[5] "Ireland Marriages, 1619-1898", , *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FGC4-2MF: 6 February 2020), Brigidam Mc Dermott in entry for Martinum Healy, 1860.

[6] Killucan Parish, Elphin Diocese, Co. Roscommon, Ireland, Marriages, 1851-1864, 1860, Martinum Healy-Brigidam McDermott, 30 Jan 1860; National Library of Ireland, Dublin; FHL microfilm 989741.

[7] Death of father Michael McDermott

[8] Birth of daughter Margaret Healy

Margaret Healy, born most likely in Toberrory, County Roscommon, circa 1863 to 1873; married Michael J. Flemming in Tulsk, County Roscommon, on 13 February 1899; died in Ireland in 1934.

Margaret Healy, daughter of Martin and Bridget (McDermott) Healy, was born most likely in Toberrory, County Roscommon, circa 1863 to 1873.[9] She died in Ireland in 1934.[10] She lived with her husband and children in Toberrory when they were enumerated on the 1901 and 1911 Census of Ireland.[11] Her husband was a shepherd.
Margaret married **Michael J. Flemming** in Tulsk, County Roscommon, on 13 February 1899.[12] Michael, son of David and Winifred (Cummins) Flemming, was born in County Roscommon circa 1862 to 1866.[13] He died in County Roscommon.[14]

19 Jan 1866 - Birth of daughter Bridget Healy (1866 - 1949) at Elphin, Roscommon, Ireland.[15]
Bridget Healy was born in Toberrory, County Roscommon, on 19 January 1866.[16] She was consecrated as Sister M. Malachy of the Marist Order and

[9] Location based on sibling birth locations. For 1863 see 1911 Census of Ireland, County Roscommon, Cloonyquin District Electoral Division (DED), Kilnanooan, Household return form A, house 1, James Healy; National Archives of Ireland, *Census of Ireland 1901/1911* (http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie\). For 1873 see Elphin District, Ireland, Civil Marriage records, 1899, 9:30, Michael Flemming-Margaret Healy; transcribed in "The Healy Family" report by County Roscommon Heritage and Genealogy Company, Strokestown, Ireland.

[10] A death source is needed. Information was taken from client's Ancestry.com tree.

[11] 1901 Census of Ireland, County Roscommon, Cloonyquin District Electoral Division (DED), Toberrory, Household return form A, house 2, Michl Fleming; National Archives of Ireland, *Census of Ireland 1901/1911* (http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie\). 1911 Census of Ireland, County Roscommon, Cloonyquin District Electoral Division (DED), Toberrory, Household return form A, house 3, Michael Fleming; National Archives of Ireland, *Census of Ireland 1901/1911* (http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie\).

[12] Elphin District, Ireland, Civil Marriage records, 1899, 9:30, Michael Flemming-Margaret Healy; transcribed in "The Healy Family" report by County Roscommon Heritage and Genealogy Company, Strokestown, Ireland.

[13] A parentage source is needed. Information was taken from client's Ancestry.com tree. For 1862 see 1911 Census of Ireland, County Roscommon, Cloonyquin District Electoral Division (DED), Toberrory, Household return form A, house 3, Michael Fleming; National Archives of Ireland, *Census of Ireland 1901/1911*

(http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie\). For 1866 see 1901 Census of Ireland, County Roscommon, Cloonyquin District Electoral Division (DED), Toberrory, Household return form A, house 2, Michl Fleming; National Archives of Ireland, *Census of Ireland 1901/1911* (http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie\).

[14] A death source is needed. Information was taken from client's Ancestry.com tree.
[15] "Ireland Births and Baptisms, 1620-1881", , *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FR9L-XHF: 15 February 2020), Bridget Healy, 1866.

[16] Ireland, Quarterly Returns of Births, Elphin District, Strokestown Union, County Roscommon, Birth Register, 1866, vol. 3-1:408, no. 335, Bridget Healy; General register Office, Dublin; FHL microfilm 101122.

served 57 years in the south of France.[17] She died in the Marist Convent in Carrick-on-Shannon, County Leitrim, on 15 April 1949.[18]

About 1866 - Death of mother Margaret Beirne (1795 - 1866) at Rathallen, Croghan, Roscommon, Ireland.[19]

1866 - Birth of son James Healy (1866 - 1944) at Strokestown, Roscommon, Ireland.[20]

James Healy, born most likely in Toberrory, County Roscommon, circa 1860 to 1866; married Kate Flemming in Ireland circa 1899; died in Elphin, County Roscommon, in 1944.

James Healy, son of Martin and Bridget (McDermott) Healy, was born most likely in Toberrory, County Roscommon, circa 1860 to 1866.[21] He died in Elphin, County Roscommon, in 1944 and is buried in Tulsk Cemetery.[22] He lived with his wife and children in Kilnanooan townland, County Roscommon, when they were enumerated on the 1901 and 1911 Census of Ireland.[23] Kilnanooan adjoins Toberrory to the east, and they were the only family living in the townland. James was a shepherd.

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[17] "Carrick-on Shannon News, Death of Aged Marist Nun," undated obituary.

[18] "Carrick-on Shannon News, Death of Aged Marist Nun," undated obituary.

[19] Death of mother, Margaret Beirne

[20] *Find a Grave*, database and images (https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/137752193/james-healy: accessed September 29, 2024), memorial page for James Healy (1866–1944), Find a Grave Memorial ID 137752193, citing Tulsk Cemetery, Tulsk, County Roscommon, Ireland; Maintained by mbm1311 (contributor 46958655).

[21] Location based on sibling birth locations. For 1860 see 1911 Census of Ireland, County Roscommon, Cloonyquin District Electoral Division (DED), Kilnanooan, Household return form A, house 1, James Healy; National Archives of Ireland, *Census of Ireland 1901/1911* (http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie\). For 1866 see 1901 Census of Ireland, County Roscommon, Cloonyquin District Electoral Division (DED), Kilnanocan [Kilnanooan], Household return form A, house 1, James Healy; National Archives of Ireland, *Census of Ireland 1901/1911* (http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie\).

[22] A death source is needed. Information was taken from client's Ancestry.com tree. For cemetery see *Find a Grave* (http://www.findagrave.com), James Healy, Memorial #137752193.

[23] 1901 Census of Ireland, County Roscommon, Cloonyquin District Electoral Division (DED), Kilnanocan [Kilnanooan], Household return form A, house 1, James Healy; National Archives of Ireland, *Census of Ireland 1901/1911* (http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie\). 1911 Census of Ireland, County Roscommon, Cloonyquin District Electoral Division (DED), Kilnanooan, Household return form A, house 1, James Healy; National Archives of Ireland, *Census of Ireland 1901/1911* (http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie\).

James married Kate Flemming in Ireland circa 1899.[24] Kate was born in County Roscommon between 1866 and 1868.[25] She was buried in Tulsk Cemetery.[26]

10 Jul 1868 - Birth of son Michael Joseph Healy (1868 - 1917) at Elphin, Roscommon, Ireland.[27]
Michael Joseph Healy was born in Toberrory, County Roscommon, on 10 July 1868; married Mary C. Brudell in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, on 9 June 1904; died in Chicago on 30 January 1917.

Michael Joseph Healy, son of Martin and Bridget (McDermott) Healy, was born in Toberrory, County Roscommon, on 10 July 1868.[28] He died in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, on 30 January 1917 and was buried in Calvary Cemetery in Evanston, Cook County, Illinois.[29] Michael immigrated to the U.S. in 1890 and, in 1910, lived at 172 Cass Street in Chicago.[30] Michael married Mary Cecelia Brudell in Chicago on 9 June 1904.[31] Mary, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Daly) Brudle, was born in Doon townland, County Roscommon, on 10 September 1873.[32] Doon is about six miles east

[24] Based reported years married in 1911 Census of Ireland, County Roscommon, Cloonyquin District Electoral Division (DED), Kilnanooan, Household return form A, house 1, James Healy; National Archives of Ireland, *Census of Ireland 1901/1911* (http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie\).

[25] For 1866 see 1911 Census of Ireland, County Roscommon, Cloonyquin District Electoral Division (DED), Kilnanooan, Household return form A, house 1, Kate Healy; National Archives of Ireland, *Census of Ireland 1901/1911* (http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie\). For 1868 see 1901 Census of Ireland, County Roscommon, Cloonyquin District Electoral Division (DED), Kilnanocan [Kilnanooan], Household return form A, house 1, Kate Healy; National Archives of Ireland, *Census of Ireland 1901/1911* (http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie\).

[26] *Find a Grave* (http://www.findagrave.com), Catherine "Kate" Flemming Healy, Memorial #137752278.

[27] "Find a Grave Index," database, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVPS-D72X: 4 July 2020), Michael J. Healy, 1985; Burial, , ; citing record ID , *Find a Grave*, http://www.findagrave.com.

[28] Elphin District, Ireland, Civil Birth records, 1868, 2:48, Michael Healy; transcribed in “The Healy Family” report by County Roscommon Heritage and Genealogy Company, Strokestown, Ireland.

[29] For death see Illinois State Department of Public Health, death certificate no. 3609 (1917), Michael Healy; Division of Vital Records, Springfield, Illinois. For cemetery see *Find a Grave* (http://www.findagrave.com), Michael Joseph Healy, Memorial #24596510.

[30] 1910 U.S. census, Cook County, Illinois, population schedule, Chicago Ward 21, enumeration district 915, page 9A, Michael J. Healey; *Ancestry.com* (http://www.ancestry.com/).
[31] "Illinois, Chicago, Catholic Church Records, 1833-1925", database with images, *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVMN-B176 : 27 May 2014), Michael J Healy and Mary C Brudell, 1904.

[32] A birth source is needed. Information was taken from client’s Ancestry.com tree.

of Tulsk. She died in Chicago on 1 January 1917 and was buried in Calvary Cemetery.[33]

1868 - Birth of daughter Mary Healy (1869 - 1927) at Elphin, Roscommon, Ireland.[34]

Mary Healy was born probably in Toberrory, County Roscommon, circa 1869.[35] She was consecrated as Sister Chanel of the Marist Order.[36] She died in France in 1927.[37]

10 Aug 1871 - Birth of son John Healy (1871 - 1924) at Ratherogen, Roscommon, Ireland.[38]

John Healy was born in Toberrory, County Roscommon, on 10 August 1871.[39] He immigrated to New York, New York County, New York, on 15 November 1908 on the ship Celtic.[40] In 1910, he lived with his brother in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois.[41]

1870s — Records documenting Bridget McDermott Healy's later life are limited to civil registrations and burial evidence.

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[33] For death see Illinois State Department of Public Health, death certificate no. 102 (1917), Mary Healy; Division of Vital Records, Springfield, Illinois. For cemetery see *Find a Grave* (http://www.findagrave.com), Mary Cecelia Brudell Healy, Memorial #24596612.

[34] Ireland, Civil Registration Births Index, 1864-1958; Name Mary Healy, Birth Date 1869, Birth Place Boyle, Ireland, Birth Registration Date 1869, Birth Registration Place Ireland, Volume 9, Page 109, FHL Film Number 101046

[35] A birth source is needed. Information was taken from client's Ancestry.com tree.

[36] A source is needed. Information was taken from client's Ancestry.com tree.

[37] A death source is needed. Information was taken from client's Ancestry.com tree.

[38] *Find a Grave*, database and images (https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/166911808/john-healy: accessed September 29, 2024), memorial page for John Healy (10 Aug 1871–3 Jan 1924), Find a Grave Memorial ID 166911808; Burial Details Unknown; Maintained by mbm1311 (contributor 46958655).

[39] Elphin District, Ireland, Civil Birth Records, 1871, 3:38, John Healy; transcribed in "The Healy Family" report by County Roscommon Heritage and Genealogy Company, Strokestown, Ireland.

[40] "New York, Passenger Lists, 1820-1957," Ancestry.com (http://www.ancestry.com/), John Healy, arrival 15 Nov 1908, born 1875 in Rathoughan [Rathcroghan].

[41] 1910 U.S. census, Cook County, Illinois, population schedule, Chicago Ward 21, enumeration district 915, page 9A, John Healey; *Ancestry.com* (http://www.ancestry.com/).

18 Sep 1855 - Death at Ratherogen, Roscommon, Ireland.[42]

The Irish death record reports an age that corresponds to a birth year of 1859, a date that is unlikely given the timing of her marriage and the births of her children.

Rathcroghan appears in later records as a place-name associated with the Toberrory area rather than as a distinct townland.

Sep 1855 - Burial at Tulsk, Roscommon, Ireland.[43]

[42] "Find a Grave Index," database, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QK18-PTF3: 27 January 2024), Bridget McDermott Healy, ; Burial, Tulsk, , County Roscommon, Ireland, Tulsk Cemetery; citing record ID 137753515, *Find a Grave*, http://www.findagrave.com.

[43] "Find a Grave Index," database, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QK18-PTF3: 27 January 2024), Bridget McDermott Healy, ; Burial, Tulsk, , County Roscommon, Ireland, Tulsk Cemetery; citing record ID 137753515, *Find a Grave*, http://www.findagrave.com.

Appendix:

A. A strong DNA match to Marguerite Signora McDermott Glad prompted further investigation into collateral McDermott lines. In the course of reviewing her family tree, a legal notice was identified relating to a land dispute filed in Natrona County, Wyoming, in the early 1950s. The case was initiated by Agnes McDermott Bagby, who sought to quiet title to property in Casper, Wyoming, that had been willed to multiple members of the McDermott family.

The published summons names numerous McDermott defendants and heirs, including individuals residing in Roscommon, Ireland, as well as in New York, New Jersey, Utah, and Wyoming. Among those listed are Hugh McDermott and Annie McDermott of Rathallen (Rothallen), Croghan, Roscommon, as well as the heirs of Michael McDermott and Patrick McDermott, both described as deceased. The notice demonstrates that members of the McDermott family remained connected across Ireland and the United States well into the mid-twentieth century.

The resolution of the Wyoming case has not been determined, but the legal notice provides independent documentary evidence of a broad McDermott kinship network extending from Roscommon to multiple U.S. locations. Its value in this research lies not in the outcome of the case, but in the identification of contemporaneous McDermott family members and their geographic distribution.

Legal Notices

The State of Wyoming
County of Natrona
ss.
In The District Court
Seventh Judicial District
No. 17034
Summons

Margaret Bagby,
Plaintiff,

vs.

Carl Bayer
Hugh McDermott
James Duffy
Margret Bonny
Marie Gilmore
Ethel McDermott
Ann McDermott
Hazel McDermott
Esther Homer
Joe McDermott
Mrs. W. Glad
Mary T. Svare
Anna E. Hawkins
The Unknown Heirs and Devisees of Carl Bayer
Hugh McDermott and Annie McDermott, if deceased
The Unknown Heirs and Devisees Margaret McDermott Duffy
Michael McDermott and Patrick McDermott, Deceased,

Defendants,

To: Carl Bayer
Hugh McDermott (Rothallen, Croughan, Boyle, County Roscommon, Ireland)
Annie McDermott (Rothallen, Croughab, Boyle, County Roscommon, Ireland)
James Duffy (1058 Elmore Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey)
Margaret Bonny (Box 161, Bloomington, New York),
Marie Gilmore (428-77th Street, New York City, New York)
Ethel McDermott, Ann McDermott, Hazel McDermott, Ester Home, and Mrs. W. Glad (all of 766 Emerson Street, Salt Lake City, Utah)
Joe McDermott (70 Layton Avenue, Bountiful, Utah)
The Unknown Heirs and Devisees of Carl Bayer
Hugh McDermott and Annie McDermott, if deceased
The Unknown Heirs and Devisees of Margaret McDermott, Peter McDermott, James McDermott, Mary McDermott Duffy, Michael McDermott, and Patrick McDermott are deceased.

You and each of you are hereby notified that Margaret Bagby has filed her petition against you in the above-entitled Court, the object of which is to quiet her title in and to Lot 15, in Block 21, in the City of Casper, Natrona

County, Wyoming. The paper of said petition is that you be required to set forth the nature of your claims, if any, in and to said property, that such be adjudged to be null and void, and that you be enjoined from asserting any right, title, interest, or estate therein adverse to the plaintiff.

You are further notified that you are required to answer the plaintiff's petition on or before March 7, 1953, or judgment will be entered in accordance with the prayer of said petition.

Witness Harry McCraken, Clark of said District Court, and the Seal thereof at the City of Casper, Wyoming, this 24 day of January 1953.

Harry McCraken
Clerk of Court
By Lucile Van Burgh
Deputy Clerk
(SEAL)

Published: January 25, February 1, 8, and 15, 1953.

B. **DNA Correspondence with James Kocornik-Mina**

James Kocornik-Mina is a DNA match who contacted the author after receiving AncestryDNA results indicating multiple shared connections with members of the Whelan family. He reported ancestral ties to County Roscommon, specifically the Holywell area near Strokestown, and identified both McDermott and Healy lines within his family.

In his correspondence, James stated that his great-grandfather was James McDermott (FG# 173156339), married to Eleanor Healy (FG# 173156356), and that earlier generations of this family lived in Holywell, Kilbride parish, Roscommon. He noted that members of this family raised horses and were buried at Derrane (spelling uncertain). He also observed the geographic proximity of Holywell to Ratherogen, which hhad visited, and remarked on the broader archaeological and historical context of the area.

James further reported that a journal kept by his great-grandmother (born in 1859) mentions an “uncle James Healy of Chicago” as a witness to a birth or marriage. If accurate, this reference would place the James Healy mentioned in the journal in the first half of the nineteenth century. Within the framework of this research, such a reference would be consistent with James Healy of Chicago being the brother of Eleanor Healy, the wife of

James McDermott. Under that interpretation, Eleanor Healy would also be a sister of Martin Healy, the author's direct ancestor. James cautioned that the Healy reference might ultimately prove incidental rather than directly relevant, but it is preserved here as a potentially significant indicator of sibling relationships that are unlikely to be documented through surviving baptismal records.